[*Translation*]

NATIONAL HIGHWAY BETWEEN PATNA AND ARRAH

1388. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the section of the National Highway between Patna and Arrah is in a very bade condition; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government for the repair and development of this road ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) As intimated by the State Government the section of National Highway No. 30 between Patna and Arrah is generally in a satisfactory condition except km. 117—119 (Arrah Bazar) and km. 162—166 in short streches. These kms. are being kept in a traffic-worthy condition within the available maintenance and repair grants.

During the last 3 years (1988-89 to 1990-91) development works costing Rs. 59 lakhs and flood damage/special repair works costing Rs. 52 lakhs, have been approved for this section of the National Highway apart from normal maintenance activities.

Moreover, improvement of 31 kms. of the National Highway in this portion including kms. 117--119 and kms. 162—166 is included in the Annual Plan 1991-92 for sanction at an estimated cost of Rs. 375 lakhs.

IMPORT OF POLLUTION MEASURING INSTRUMENTS

1389. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have fixed strict standards for controlling the pollution caused by the vehicles;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to import sophisticated pollution measuring instruments to check the vehicles; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these instruments will be imported and the amount likely to be spent thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The responsibility for implementing the provision relating to pollution control rests with the State Governments/Union Territories. The infrastructure is being gradually built up by the State Governments/Union Territories. Necessary equipments have to be purchased from indigenous sources and whenever necessary supplemented by imports.

[*English*]

EXPORT OF KOTA STONE AND MARBLE

1390. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kota stone and marble are exported from Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the importing countries;

(c) the incentives being given to the exporters; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the export of Kota stone and marble ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While separate export statistics in respect of Kota Stones are not available, exports of marble slabs and tiles during 1989-90 and 1990-91 are estimated as under :

(Value in Rs. lakhs)

1989-90	1990-91
62	168

The major importing countries are Italy, UAE, UK and USA.

(c) and (d) Export of cut and polished minerals and rocks are now eligible for income tax benefits under Section 80 HHC of Income Tax Act and a uniform rate of REP at 30% has been made available to all exports including exports of marble and stones.

RECRUITMENT OF LOCAL PEOPLE IN BEL UNIT AT KOTDWARA, U.P.

1391. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to recruit local people in the unit of Bharat Electronics Limited at Kotdwara, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) There is no immediate recruitment at the Kotdwara Unit of Bharat Electronics. However, 70% of the work force, employed by Bharat Electronics, Kotdwara, have been recruited through the local Employment Exchanges.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

PRIVATISATION OF SHIPPING AND PORT MANAGEMENT

1392. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to allow privatisation of certain areas of shipping and port management;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be finalised; and

(d) the benefits to be derived therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Government welcomes the participation of private sector.

(b) This depends upon the nature of the proposals received from the private sector.

(c) and (d) Till date, no firm proposal has been received. However, this step is perceived mainly to bring in additional resources and lend market-orientation.

BUSINESS IN INDIAN BANKS VIS-A-VIS FOREIGN BANKS

1393. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU :

SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

The volume of business of Indian banks, both deposits and credit, vis-a-vis foreign banks in India and the deposit growth of Indian and Foreign banks separately as on March 31, 1991 as compared to the preceding two years, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : The deposits and advances of Indian banks and Foreign banks for the period, ending March 1989, March 1990 and March 1991, as reported by Reserve Bank of India, are given below :—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Indian Banks		Foreign Banks	
	Deposits	Advances	Deposits	Advances
1989	138403	82233	5674	4173
1990	163074	97968	8316	5107
1991	188779	113060	11298	6827